

# "Quote"

To conserve the time of Public Speakers, Educators, Writers, Ministers, Executives and all who are "Too Busy to Read"

Issued weekly by Quote Service  
MAXWELL DROKE, Publisher

Business and Editorial offices,  
DROKE HOUSE  
1014 N. Pennsylvania, Indianapolis

Subscription rate: \$5.00 per year  
in advance, in United States and  
Possessions. Foreign: \$6 per year.

Entered as Second Class matter April 8,  
1941, at the Post Office at Indianapolis,  
Indiana, under Act of March 2, 1879.

VOL. 1

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., MAY 31, 1941

No. 22

We once knew a Florida cracker who answered one of those "Earn-Money-in-Your-Spare-Time" advertisements. He was obliged to abandon the notion, however, because of the difficulty involved in telling his spare time from any other time.

We were reminded of this incident by our own perplexity in seeking to differentiate between the "unlimited" emergency which the President has just declared, and the "limited" variety under which we have lived since 1939. Actually, there is no clear distinction of powers. The President could do virtually anything under the terms of a "limited" emergency which he now is privileged to do. And that is saying a good deal.

President Roosevelt remains the supreme showman. And this move is what is known in thespian circles as "a bit of business." It was done for psychological effect—to bolster the morale of Britain and her allies, and to strike terror into the hearts of her enemies. Also—and not too incidentally—it was intended as a shot in the arm for home consumption, designed to accelerate gov't action in all directions, with special emphasis, no doubt, on the defense program. (As Frank Kent points out in the *Columnists' Column* this week, official Washington has been degenerating of late.)

What about Convoys?—Taking full cognizance of the President's forthright statement of intentions, the question of whether or not we purpose to convoy mercantile shipments became rather an academic matter. They have been saying in Washington for a week or more that the convoy is now considered an obsolete method of protection. We incline to read in this an Administration purpose to adventure into new realms of nomenclature. But after all, whether you call it "patrol" or "convoy" or what-you-will the net intent is to deliver the goods in spite of hell and



## The Godless Goose-Step

Even our right to worship would be threatened in a world dominated by Nazi force. For the Nazis recognize no God except Hitler. What place has a religion which preaches the dignity of the human being—the majesty of the human soul—in a world where moral standards are measured by treachery and bribery and fifth columnists? In such a world, would our children, too, wander off, goose-stepping in search of new gods?—FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, *President of the United States*, in his historic address of May 27, 1941.

high seas. Nothing could be much clearer than the President's own words in this connection: "All additional measures necessary to deliver the goods will be taken."

Banished Bismarck—The commonly repeated phrase of the week to the effect that Britain has "evened the score" with Germany in sinking the Bismarck is of course a gross understatement. If you have twenty dollars, and I have four—and we each lose a dollar, I have parted with a fourth of my capital, while your store is depleted only 5%.

The sinking of the brand-new Bismarck was a greater naval feat than was the German accomplishment in downing the larger and older Hood. Insiders have known that the Hood

was highly vulnerable to attack from heavy guns. The British tried, some years ago, to correct the armor defects of the 21-year-old warship, but her magazines remained a weak spot.

U. S. has led the world in protecting the vital areas of her warships—magazines, gun turrets, conning towers—will probably take still further precautionary measures as a result of the Hood lesson.

Battle of Crete—As we close this page a bit early this week, because of the impending holiday, the news from Crete is not heartening. British troops have withdrawn from Cana, capital city to "a position in the rear." An Associated Press dispatch from Berlin states that "British resistance has been smashed" and attempted British flight by sea was frustrated by German air attack. Despite severe losses, British navy apparently has prevented Nazis from landing troops by sea.

The Turkish radio is saying that German losses at Crete have been so heavy the Nazis probably will be unable to follow up with conquest of Cyprus, as planned.

France's Promissory Note—We are not much impressed by Vichy's Spenserian flourish. Her written statement that neither fleet nor colonies will be turned over to Hitler doesn't mean much, as our state dept well knows. France is completely under Nazi domination, and must do as she is told.

Selective Service—Our guess is that the million new 21-year-old registrants are likely to find themselves in active service rather earlier than anticipated. Present tendency is to sift out older men, and to defer a greater number in essential industries.

Current Gallup poll shows 93% believe draft is being conducted fairly. That's about as close as we ever get to unanimity in this country!

"He Who Never Quotes, is Never Quoted."—Charles Haddon Spurgeon

### After the Armistice . . .

Unless this war differs from all other conflicts in human history, it will some day come to an end.

And then, what?

America, as "the arsenal of democracy" is already committed to the policy of seeing this struggle brought to a successful end. Thus we can countenance only one conclusion—a defeat of "Hitlerism and all for which it stands." And we are already too deeply into this conflict to dodge a measure of responsibility for the aftermath.

So again we ask—and then, what?

Specifically, what kind of a government do we purpose to impose upon the people of a defeated Germany?

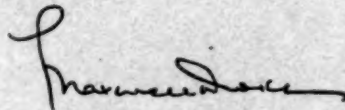
It is simple enough to reply glibly that we will "liberate" the teutonic populations and "set up a republic," or for that matter a whole series of independent states. But how do we know these peoples want to be "liberated"? Are they capable of assuming—and *willing* to assume—the responsibilities that a republic implies? The oldsters still nourish some rather bitter recollections of the ill-fated Weimar republic. And the younger generation, schooled in the Nazi philosophy of State, is scarcely the material one would choose from which to fashion a government on democratic principles. Such governments cannot be imposed by force. They must be born and nurtured in the spirit of the peoples themselves.

Jean Giono spoke truly when he said that Liberty is no food for people born in captivity. Liberty means responsibility. That is why most men dread it.

Though, in historical perspective, it is clear that the Weimar republic never had a chance, it is likewise true that in its brief span it did give the Germans a taste of freedom—and of responsibility. From both of which the teutonic mind instinctively shrinks.

I well recall Tom Dreier quoting an elderly German on the beneficence of Hitler: "We bless him because he has lifted from us the burden of our liberties."

No; I am not too optimistic concerning the prospects of maintaining a Second German Republic.



Publisher.

### ANGER

Men are like steel. When they lose their temper they are worthless.—JOSEPH WYNNE, *Modern Selling*.

### ANIMALS—In War

To most Americans a dog is intended for companionship or for sport, yet the world over millions of dogs work for a living. War dispatches from the late Finnish front reminded us that even in the grim business of war the dog has his place. Finns employed the shaggy Lapland reindeer dog on patrol just as most other armies do. An old veteran of the Philippine campaign once told

me that no scouting party which took a dog along was ever surprised or ambushed in the jungle. Major armies in Europe today have dog corps. The Germans now have at least 50,000 trained dogs "under arms," most of them broken to gas masks; the Russians are reputed to have dogs trained to parachute jumping, presumably for communications work when these troops alight. In World War I over 7,000 dogs were killed in action.—PAUL W. KEARNEY, "Working Like a Dog," *Better Homes & Gardens*, 5-41.

### ARMY—Education

One astonishing thing the draft army is running up against—a sort of unexpected problem, is illiteracy.

At Fort Belvoir, an assembly point for all engineer training corps in the East, the percentage of illiteracy among the negro draftees is 79.1. About half of these have to write "X" for their name, and among the whites, the percentage is 5.1 percent for those who have to write "X" for their name, and about 5.2 percent who can do this cannot read a newspaper or write a letter. The latter are known as "functionally illiterate."

Faced with this unexpected problem, the Army is hastily organizing literacy classes. . . . It is hoped to train them to sign their own names and read a few simple signs in 90 days. . . . If G-3 Headquarters can do that— . . . they will have done something the American public school system has never been able to do.—HARGROVE HOLMAN, "Inside Washington," *Townsend National Weekly*, 5-24-41.

### ARMY—Permanence

Military men are cautiously discussing a future possibility. . . .

Assume that Britain wins the war, with the help of the United States. World peace can then only be secured by an alliance of the two powers. The impracticability of such an overall combination as the League of Nations has been demonstrated. One of the two powers will dominate such an alliance. The major partner will be the one with the most money and men left and in the best defensive position. That must be the United States.

For the first time in the history of the United States, they see some prospect of permanence in their jobs.—*Nation's Business*, 5-41.

### AVIATION—War

The United States Navy is preparing to use blimps in guarding against fleet sorties or enemy attempts to enter American ports; in liaison operations between naval units and Army coast defense, and as "listening posts" off American shores, listening and watching for enemy aircraft. The Navy's aeronautical specialists believe blimps can be developed to the point where they may alight on the water, ride to a sea anchor while being refueled from surface tenders, tow listening devices for submarine detection work, and even engage in mine-sweeping operations.—DELANO BROOKINGS, "The Navy's Flying Crow's Nest," *Christian Science Monitor*.



**BIRDS—In War**

One extraordinary fact about London's parks is that some of the birds have become war-minded. The starlings, always imitative birds, now copy the sound of a bomb whistling down, while the pelicans in St. James' Park, inspired by what they see overhead, have been flying higher than ever before and dive down to ground again like airplanes. Some emigrant birds did not return last summer; presumably the disturbance of firing and the roar of planes drove them to other parts. The sparrows and waterfowl are begging more aggressively than usual, not understanding that guns are more important than crumbs. —BAZIL AVEZATHIE, "London's Gardens in Wartime," *Travel*, 5-41.

**BLINDNESS**

A novel organization, the Dawn Society, has just been formed in northern California of persons who pledge their eyes at death to give sight to the living blind. As a result, it is hoped doctors will have enough cornea tissue from healthy eyes for people blind because of damaged corneas. This condition accounts for about 5% of all types of blindness and is often due to industrial accidents. Doctors have been successful in grafting corneas from one eye to another in recent years, but have been hampered by lack of healthy tissue for the operation. Oral promises to give their eyes to the blind, made by people before death, have not been helpful, as relatives will seldom agree to the operation when the willing donor is deceased. Sponsored by the International Order of Good Templars, the Dawn Society now has forty members, each having signed a written, legally binding pledge to give his eyes to the blind immediately after death. —*Science News Letter*, 5-17-41.

**BOOKS**

There are signs that, under war conditions, British readers are turning more and more to books of established reputation that have stood the test of time. The National Book Council has come to their assistance by issuing a classified and annotated catalogue, running to forty large quarto pages of small print, of four series of English Classics produced by British publishers. —*The New York Times*, 5-18-41.

**BOOKS—Future**

There are no books on the bookshelves in the illustrated preview of a

living room of 1960. Because, the text says, by 1960, libraries will consist of diminutive reels of film which people will read through projectors on a screen. We find ourselves envying the fortunate people of 1960 who can curl up on the couch for a quiet hour with half a dozen spools of film, a projector and a six-foot screen. . . . So there will be no books in the living-room of 1960, and only printed films and television sets. But will there be windows and light streaming through? Or will the living-rooms of 1960 be situated 200 feet underground beneath bombproof ceilings and without windows? And will there be no books for the real reason that the new masters of the world will have burned them all? —*New York Times*, 5-21-41.

**BUSINESS—Promotion**

Not long ago, the First Lady suggested that people refrain from buying new cars and instead, lend their savings to the Government. Since then, the automobile industry has enjoyed a big spurt in sales. She also hinted at that time that consumers ought to defer their purchases of aluminum wares. That immediately gave a big boost to department store sales of aluminum utensils. It suggested a shortage to consumers who otherwise never would have thought of it. Now, all the smart promotion men would like to see their products on the "My Day" priority list. —*Nation's Business*, 5-41.

**CHANGING WORLD**

In looking back over 10 years of Nazi campaigning, the first thing that becomes clear about the Nazis and their logic is that they assume and understand that things—all things—change. The world never ceases changing. They understand, for example, that a military machine adequate under one set of circumstances, at one time, cannot be adequate under other circumstances at another time. The Reichswehr's commanders do not build an army; they build an army to accomplish a particular purpose at a particular time. The Nazis, in 1930-'40, didn't just build tanks; they built tanks to take care of France's 25-m. m. anti-tank guns. Similarly, they do not build to meet what the enemy has; they build to meet what he *will have*. This is not to say that the Nazis are the only ones who work and build in such terms and with such objectives—they are not. But they do it so much more consistently than their opponents as not to be an accident. —*PM*, 5-19-41.

**CHARITY**

One of the proofs that giving is a pleasure is the fact that Englishmen have persisted in maintaining the voluntary system in running their hospitals. Common sense tells us that hospitals should be paid for and kept in a high state of efficiency out of public funds. But the English people have again and again rejected a proposal that this should be done; they saw that, if it were, the pleasures of personal giving would be curtailed to a lamentable extent. It may be argued that, to pay through taxes is to give no less than to send a cheque signed by oneself. But the Englishman does not see things like this. Until quite recently, he resented taxation as a form of state robbery, and the notion of paying for a hospital through state taxes revolted him as other people were revolted by the notion of supporting a hospital by sweepstakes. So profoundly charitable is he that he views everything that would limit the opportunities of charity with suspicion. Many years ago, after Mr. Bernard Shaw had delivered a lecture on Socialism, a little man rose at the back of the hall and asked: "If Socialism is established and the poor are abolished, how am I to find an outlet for my charitable instincts?" —*The New Statesman & Nation*, 4-19-41.

**Quote prophecies—**

—that the President's admonitions to labor will have their effect in quelling disorder and violence, but the "moral victory" gained by CIO's United Automobile Workers in last week's ballot at the Ford plant—and the action of General Motors in meeting the union's demands for a 10-cent wage increase—will result in an avalanche of similar demands not only in the automotive industry, but in other fields as well. Many of these demands may be met without resort to strikes. But employers may well face the fact that we are in an era when labor is in the ascendancy. The law of supply and demand is now functioning in the labor marts and it is only elementary to anticipate widespread wage increases. While the skilled organized worker will be among the first to benefit, the unskilled and unorganized must inevitably be affected if there is uncontrolled competitive bidding for the available manpower of the nation.

## THE COLUMNISTS' COLUMN

FRANK R. KENT, Washington Correspondent, has been with The Baltimore Sun for more than forty years. He classifies himself as a Democrat, but has never been very favorable to the New Deal. In the comment which follows, however, he expresses an attitude which appears rather general in Washington today:

There is much talk in Washington just now about finding ways of reducing the burdens the President is carrying. There is nothing serious the matter with him, but it is agreed he has taken on more work than he can do; that what he is attempting to do is beyond his capacity—or, for that matter, any man's capacity.

Evidence that it is far beyond his capacity is attested by the undeniable fact that nothing governmental in Washington is being well done. It isn't merely that the defense job is being botched. That indictment is not made by the opponents of the Administration. It is made by men on the inside of the defense organization itself, such, for example, as Mr. W. L. Batt, deputy director of OPM's production division. . . .

Few of the normal governmental agencies are being kept up to their pre-defense standards. And no one has contended that they have been very high at any time in the last eight years. Mr. Roosevelt himself has said that the weakest thing about the New Deal has been its administration. . . . Today, the most superficial examination of the governmental agencies reveals a general letdown in efficiency and force, a marked deterioration in personnel and morale. . . .

It would be easy to pile up more evidence on this slackening in administration. There is the fact that the President has permitted a vacancy on the Supreme Court to exist for nearly four months, although everyone has known for the past two whom he has decided to appoint. . . .

The fact is, no one in position to make the comparison can survey the governmental situation here today without conceding that there has been a distinct and unmistakable decline, which in some spots has almost reached the stage of decay. The President has so much to do he cannot give the time needed to keep the normal agencies up. —FRANK R. KENT, "The Great Game of Politics" (Copyright, The Baltimore Sun).

## DEFENSE—Industry

Not all the oil yielded by earth flows or is pumped up as a liquid. In Canada now, spurred by Britain's war needs, oil operators are literally "squeezing" oil from buckets full of sand. Known for more than 250 years, since explorers found Indians caulking their canoes with sand-oil and pitch, the huge oil sand fields 300 miles north of Edmonton, Alberta, are now being worked commercially for the first time, with machinery shipped in from the United States. In oil sand beds, oil is not present in sufficient quantities to flow. Instead, it forms a skin, or film, around the individual sand particles. Warm water and abrasion break the film off the sand, after which it is a simple matter to separate the oil and water. —Pathfinder, 5-17-41.

## DEFENSE—Ingenuity

In gratitude for his work in removing delayed action bombs which fell in the east end of London, Capt. Robert Davies, who is in command of the bomb disposal squad, has been presented with a stethoscope by the resident staff of one of the hospitals. He has frequently borrowed a stethoscope from the hospital in order to listen to the ticking of delayed action bombs before removing them.—London correspondent of The Journal of the American Medical Association.

## DEFENSE—Materials

News item: The London Board of Trade refused today to reconsider its order cutting British corset production 50% of last year's sales. Which prompted this reply from LOUISE SHAW.

The Ship of State, for an even keel,  
Needs tons and tons of corset steel.  
The die is cast, the Fates have  
written

That ladies now must bulge for  
Britain.

—Wall Street Journal, 5-6-41.

## DIVORCE—In Wartime

Vichy, France, is out to call a halt on its rapidly falling birthrate by making divorce more difficult. Up to the present, a divorce court judge would mildly request petitioners for divorce to think over the proposed step for twenty days. The new law drafted April 9, authorizes the judges to increase the "reconciliation period" to two years, or even four, if the circumstances favor an avoidance of divorce. The evils resulting from the usual period of separation preceding

applications for divorce have been further reduced by lengthening the period for the conversion of a separation to a divorce to three years, and then it is to be granted only at the request of the person in whose favor the separation was originally granted.—JULIUS F. SEEBACK, "In The World's Eye," The Lutheran, 5-14-41.

## DRESS—English

The genius for understatement, so often attributed to the English, and admired abroad by nations who appreciate tastes and reticence, and jeered at by those who are unable to perceive such negative virtues, has a practical, and indeed a world-famous expression, in the Englishman's clothes. They are politely and appropriately adjusted to the occasion as "London-made." Sometimes the idea has gone astray; and we recall the wording of a label attached to an excruciating plus-four suit in mauve and green check that occupied the centre of a cheap tailor's window in a Paris street; it said, "Quite English—very Snob."—Art & Industry, London, 3-41.

## EDUCATION—Army Service

The Army is beginning to clarify its position with respect to college students who are subject to Selective Service. High-ranking officers are telling college executives: "A half-educated man represents a waste to the army and to society. The student who is majoring in business administration, or in one of the sciences should, by all means complete his education. Then, he will be of far greater value to the Army. Such cases must of course be handled on their individual merits, but we shall be glad to defer any student in a specialized field who gives promise of yielding future dividends on his education."

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The colleges are about to strike a major blow for defense. Beginning this fall, according to Dr. Guy E. Snavely, executive director of the Association of American Colleges, some 400 liberal art schools are planning to lop a year off the required four-year course to make it possible for potential draftees to get their degrees before joining the Army. The colleges figure, too, that such a plan would bolster decreasing enrollments. Under the plan, students would go to school three terms a year instead of two and miss out on Christmas and Easter vacations. The extra term would be a summer session.—PM, 5-22-41.



## GOSSIP

A peasant with a troubled conscience went to a monk for advice, saying he had circulated a vile story about another, only to find it was not true.

"If you want to make peace with your conscience," said the monk, "you must fill a bag with chicken down, go through every dooryard in the village and drop into each of them a fluffy feather."

The peasant did as he was told. Then he came back to the monk and announced that he had done penance for his folly.

"Not yet," replied the monk. "You must now return and gather up every feather you have dropped."

"But the wind must have blown them all away," said the peasant.

"Yes, my son," returned the monk, "and so it is with gossip. Words are easily dropped but no matter how hard you may try, you can never get them back again."

## HUMOR—In War

Girl conductors of London busses—familiarily called "Clippies" because they clip or punch the tickets, are still having their good-natured quips despite war's devastations. Ellen Sayres, the writer, tells of asking the fare to New Oxford street.

"Three ha'pennies and no extra charge for the tour around the battlefields," said the clippie, with a smile. At the next corner an old, nervous-looking lady climbed aboard. Anti-aircraft fire brightened the sky. The clippie paused beside her and said, "Don't worry, the show's free. Ypres to the left—the Marne to the right; but this bus goes right to the end of the line."—*Toronto (Ontario) Star*, 5-23-41.

## IRONY

At the College of the City of New York there is a big hole in the Campus. The problem of what to do with that hole is one of the great issues at CCNY. The hole was created some years ago, by WPA labor, for the foundations of a library. Money for the library was to be supplied by the city, but nothing ever came of it except the hole. It was a cause for despair. But things are looking brighter now: a handsome building may soon mark that unsightly spot. The government has just offered to give \$90,000 to CCNY—for a new armory!—*Wilson Library Bulletin*, 5-41.

## THE NEW BOOKS...

What You Want to Know About Them

**Random Harvest**—JAMES HILTON, *Good-Bye Mr. Chips, Lost Horizon*, (Little, Brown, \$2.50).

"Do you happen to know if there's a lake—quite a small lake—between these peaks?" The man opposite me on the diner had spoken, but his eyes were not turned in my direction. They were riveted on the twin-domed summit which seemed to be running along parallel with our fast-moving train. His startled glance, which first caught my attention, had become a strange unsure gaze that hinted of a memory not quite grasped but so close that he must verify it. The day was November 11, 1937—the hour eleven o'clock.

"My answer, 'no,' dulled this sudden gleam. But the man seemed willing to talk further, and our conversation naturally turned to war—the past war and the one which seemed fast approaching. Discarding an innate reserve, as so often done by train confidants, my companion told me a weird story. The story of a detachment sent to be slaughtered as a ruse of war—the youthful leader living to overhear in his proximity to the enemy lines the cold, planned butchery he miraculously survived. Then a shell screaming overhead and bursting a few yards away, blotting away consciousness and memory. Obviously it was this young officer, now grown older, telling the tale.

"Within a year, through a chain of fortuitous events, I became secretary to my train acquaintance. Something of the unfathomable which pervaded my first meeting with Charles Ranier, industrial magnate and distinguished Member of Parliament, seemed destined to color our every conversation. Soon I learned that almost three unrecorded years lay between that horribly vivid hour in the trenches and the morning of December 27, 1917, when this younger son of a prominent

and wealthy British family found himself disheveled but slowly regaining consciousness on a Liverpool park bench.

"The quest of filling in this gap disturbed him constantly. It would take precedence over the celebrity-studded parties given by his attractive but almost-too-social wife. Some insignificant happening would strike a hidden note in the depths of his memory, sending him off into hours of fascinating revelations. 'Sometimes I have a feeling of *being half somebody else*,' would be his puzzling remark. 'Some casual little thing—a tune or a scent or a name in a newspaper will remind me, just for a second—and yet I haven't time to get any grip of what it does remind me of—it's a sort of wisp of memory that can't be trapped before it fades away.'"

These intangible, untraceable wisps were gathered and stored in the mind of the young secretary as he listened, entranced, during those moods when his employer let down the floodgates of the past. Both men held the vague hope of capturing in the outrushing stream some trace of the hidden brook. Somehow the course must be found. The restless mind of this man who was must be set at ease, no matter the cost to his present enviable career.

With the shock and suspense of which he is a master, James Hilton has written a tense and swiftly-moving book. A tantalizing bit of memory is tossed here and there in the life of Charles Ranier, to create a plot which must only be revealed as it is read.

Heading the best seller list for almost three months, and showing no signs of losing its place, *Random Harvest* has captured the interest of the league of Hilton readers to gain a mighty following of its own.

## JEWS—Persecution

Anti-Semitism, according to a recent report by a group of Negro ministers and teachers in Harlem, is again becoming an issue in the New York Negro community. The Christian Front has carried its campaign to Harlem, and a new Anti-Semitic leader is rapid-

ly being built up by the pro-fascists. He is Charles Reed, who organizes picket lines around Jewish-owned stores and who works under the slogan "Hitler took from the Jews what belonged to the Germans; let us take from the Jews what belongs to the Negroes."—*The Nation*, 5-17-41.

### LABOR—Child

Although there has been no relaxation of legislative child labor standards in Great Britain for children under school-leaving age (14 years), conditions resulting from the war have tended to increase the number of employed children. *The Report on Welfare and Health in Relation to Hours of Work and Output in War-Time* published by the British Association for Labour Legislation states, "It would appear that the employment of children of school age in agriculture and in shops has developed to an extent that calls for investigation." Suspension of the compulsory school attendance provisions in evacuation areas, the difficulty of checking on the movement of children in reception areas, transfer of attendance officers to other duties and financial pressure in many homes have combined to bring about this situation. Added to this is the tremendous increase necessary in production and the withdrawal of large numbers of workers from industry to serve in the armed forces.—Abridged from *The American Child*, 5-'41.

### LABOR—Organized

A worker does not become a confirmed trade unionist in a week or two. He must be taught the value of paying dues. In the payment of dues the worker has no choice. He must pay them to his employer in longer hours and less money, or pay them to his local union treasury to insure himself against reduction in wages and increases in hours.—FRANK P. FENTON, Director of Organization, American Federation of Labor.

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When an industry goes strikeless for 50 years that's news—or ought to be!

At Cincinnati, on May 29, a union and an employers' association are meeting to celebrate such an occasion.

Back in 1891 the Molders and Foundry Workers' union and the Manufacturers' Protective and Development ass'n began meeting to negotiate agreements for the stove industry. Since that time there has never been a strike or a lockout in the industry. There's no trick to it, say the participants except mutual fairness, mutual trust and confidence.

### LABOR—Strikes

It is rapidly becoming evident that the chief danger in the labor situation is not the existence of strikes in defense industries, but rather the at-

titude of the public and of a minority of congressmen toward organized labor. . . . A Gallup poll shows that more people think labor leaders have too much power than fear the power of business executives or government, while one frequently hears in conversation that strikers in defense industries ought to be shot. . . . Even to the extent that public indignation is justified, the more drastic remedies proposed would be of no use whatever. You cannot prevent strikes by passing a law forbidding them. . . . We should thank our lucky stars that this country breeds a kind of men in industry who are willing to stand up and defend their rights, rather than yessing the first petty Fuehrer who comes along; in the long run they are indispensable to the defense of democracy. Strikes will reach a minimum when labor is enlisted as a full partner in the struggle.—*The New Republic*, 5-19-'41.

### LANGUAGE—English

During this war there has been in Poland a spontaneous increase of the desire to learn English. In order to stamp it out, the German authorities formally forbade, as early as February, 1940, the selling of any manuals, grammars, or dictionaries of foreign languages with the exception of German, Italian and Russian. . . . Furthermore, many months before this war started, a German military attache characteristically declared in private conversation that there was no need to learn any great European language because German would soon become the language of the whole world.—STANISLAW KOZAKIEWICZ, "English as Lingua Franca," *The Spectator*, 4-18-'41.

### LANGUAGE—German

Georges Duhamel, the French poet and playwright, once went with a friend to hear a lecture by a famous old German professor.

Duhamel understood very little German, but it soon became apparent to him that the lecture must be extremely fascinating. While the speaker rushed along, growing more and more passionate, the audience excitedly craned its necks, waited open-mouthed and even leaned forward eagerly to break into hearty cheers when the lecturer finished.

"What was it?" Duhamel asked his friend. "Why were they so excited? What were they waiting for so desperately?"

"Oh, nothing unusual," the other replied. "They were just breathless with excitement waiting for the verb."

### MEMORY

One year, at Tree River, the police were taking a census of the natives. They would interrogate them, write down their names, father's names, and the rest, while the Eskimos stood by mystified, wondering what the police could be doing with these things we call paper and pencil. When it was explained to them, they understood—that is, they decided that the white man possessed no memory and had invented this curious practice in order to preserve what he would otherwise forget.

Shortly afterwards, a young Eskimo arrived at this same Post and installed himself on a bench opposite the sergeant in charge. He sat and sat until the policeman, disgusted by the sight of his tranquil nose-picking, threw him out. Ten minutes later, the door opened; the native came in with a broad grin and sat down again as if nothing had happened. The policeman, astonished, called an interpreter in to find out why the man had come back.

"You threw him out ten minutes ago," said the interpreter. "But as he knows that you have no memory, he merely waited a while and then came in again, quite sure you must have forgotten him."—GONTRAN DE PORCINS, *Kabloona*, (Reynal & Hitchcock, \$3.00).

### MORALE

Reflecting British attitude toward passage of lease-lend bill are these comments in April issue of England's *National Review*:

The moral weight of America's help is very great, we feel it so and are thankful to know we have it. Our oppressed Allies, too, the Poles, the Norwegians, the Dutch, the Belgians were immensely encouraged, they felt the dawn was here when they heard the news. The Greeks looked up from their battlefields and smiled grimly. Such neutrals as count were impressed. But in Germany, the effect was very small. *Moral effect* does not tell behind the walls erected between Germany and the world. The Germans do not count *morals* as anything. When Hitler heard that the Pope was against him, he said, "How many cannons has he got?" When the Germans heard that the U. S. A. would help Britain, they said, "How?"



**ORGANIZATION—Europe**

The Nazis are already organizing a "new European order" as part of their strategy to win the war and shape the peace. They have obligingly chosen a name for that order—Neuropa. Could Hitler do it? The terrifying answer is "yes" if the Nazis win the war.

That Napoleon failed, an oft-used rebuttal, has nothing to do with Hitler. . . . Hitler could organize Europe because there is already a trend in that direction. In Napoleon's day, the trend was toward national states, now it is toward greater economic and political unity. The economic disunity of tariff barriers and small exclusive national markets was one reason for Europe's troubles, which were made worse by political disunity. Hitler exploits the trend toward unity for his own barbarous purposes. The Nazis plan to make an enlarged Germany the professor of a monopoly of industrial power in Neuropa. All the strategic industrial plants, upon which depend economic and military power, would be located in the master Germany. Non-German peoples forced to do a colonial job of producing foodstuffs and raw materials, would be allowed only small plants to manufacture local consumers' goods or larger plants to serve the master nation under German management or control. They would not compete with German goods, but would fit into Germany's monopoly of the strategic stages of manufacture. Europe would be "integrated" economically by making Germany the greater market for foodstuffs and raw materials and the supplier of industrial goods, by German control of investment, credit and prices, by establishment of the Reichsmark as universal money, by a network of communications to enforce Germany's economic, political, and military dominion.

Could it be done? Yes, if one considers the nature of the Nazis and the technical-economic and military means at their disposal.—Abridged from an article by LEWIS COREY, "Could Hitler Organize Europe?" *The New Republic*, 5-19-41.

**PSYCHOLOGY—War**

Army recruits may, in the future, be asked to gaze at colored ink blots and tell what fanciful shapes or ideas the blots suggest to them, as a means of weeding out those men likely to break down under strains of war. A test was made in a large group of college students, student nurses and a few patients from the Neurological In-

stitute suspected of having brain tumors. . . . From the answers, the psychologists were able to pick out students having difficulty in getting along in their classes. They made correct diagnoses in every case of the patients from the Neurological Institute. —*Science News Letter*, 5-17-41.

**RADIO—In Business**

To speed up emergency service and save the time of its men on the road, the Boston Consolidated Gas Company is about to install two-way radios in its service cars. Soon it will apply to the FCC for a permit.—*Tide*, 5-41.

**RANK—Respect for**

Although possessed of great modesty respecting his own person, George Washington insisted that due respect be shown toward all the titles and offices bestowed upon him by his fellow-countrymen.

One day during the Revolution, a messenger arrived from General Hough under a flag of truce, with a letter addressed to "Mr. Washington."

The General took the communication, glanced at the inscription and said: "Why this letter is not for me, it is directed to a planter in Virginia. I will keep it and give it to him at the end of the war."

Then, putting the letter into his pocket, he ordered the resumption of hostilities. In an hour, another letter arrived addressed to His Excellency General Washington.—*Wall Street Journal*.

**SAFETY—Traffic**

A novel plan to bring traffic signals into cars in the form of distinctive tones corresponding to the "stop" and "go" lights, may in time make a car radio a legal requirement on every car in the United States. In its present form, this traffic-control system uses the existing car radio tuned to 550 kc., thus making the system immediately available for the six million cars now equipped with auto radios, though eventually a small set would be employed with fixed tuning to the highway safety-signal frequency. By the use of this signal, the driver, instead of letting his attention wander from the roadway in his search for traffic signals in unfamiliar territory would hear a pleasant low tone as long as the lights were green. When red comes on, in all cars in that section of the roadway an interrupted high note would be heard similar to that caused by a crossing signal. A distinctive sign placed on the street in advance

of a given radio zone attracts the attention of motorists to the radio system which they are approaching and gives them the frequency to which to tune their sets. By means of this device, traffic can be diverted to a secondary thoroughfare from crowded highways, preventing jams before cars have a chance to pile up, and drivers be warned of speed limits or of emergency in case of fire or accident.—*Nature*, London, 4-12-41.

**SELECTIVE SERVICE**

Hitchhiking by service men aroused an editorial in *The Regular*, organ of the Regular Veteran's Association. This method of obtaining transportation "is a discredit to the uniform, aside from the fact that it is illegal in most states. . . . A civilian has only himself to worry about—but service men are identified with a distinct class. What few do, all are inevitably reputed to do. Service men, we believe, should budget income, so that when they take leave, the necessary funds for transportation should be on hand. . . . If he can't pay, he should not go." This mild rebuke needs only one bit of enlightenment. A word on how to budget that \$21.00 a month.

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Disheartened at the lack of realism among college men facing conscription, GAYNOR MADDOX records examples of their casual acceptance and selfish reasoning in an article entitled "Conscription Hits the Campus."

"College graduates should be given at least a year to establish themselves in careers before being drafted," argued a graduate student in finance at an Eastern metropolitan university. Or 'Loss of a year may end my big league baseball chances for all time,'—from a college senior. Loss of the democratic right to choose one's career freely might end his hopes for all time," comments the author. In concluding, he sums up the general reaction obtained in his investigation as follows: "With few exceptions, the college youth interviewed revealed a dangerous inability to face the fact that dictatorship and fascism in a crushed Europe threaten the very well-stream of our ideals. Only a significant few recognize the interacting relationship between their destinies and the destinies of older men. But before we pass judgment, let us ponder one more fact. Almost without exception, their statements revealed a tragic mistrust of both the integrity and the purposes of their elders."—Taken from *The American Mercury*, 5-41.

## WAR

I was never able to look upon war as pageantry, or majesty or spiritual transformation. To me it remains a bloated abortion with dollar marks on its flanks to denote its sponsors, a dripping steel snout and knuckles of brass; a ravaging monster which never is emptied, yet never is filled up, dragging its gross belly across the face of the land, rending and spoiling all it does not devour.—IRVIN S. COBB, *Exit Laughing* (Bobbs-Merrill, \$3.50).

## WAR—Physical Effects

Due to the almost continual day and night raids during the past months, virtually every phase of the Londoner's life has undergone a drastic change. Some of the less important effects were mild epidemics of such maladies as follows:

**Sirentitis**—The noise of the sirens at night at the beginning of the raid, when they were sounded for a period of at least 10 minutes, was so penetrating that most of us had the sound in our ears for at least a half hour afterwards.

**Shelteritis**—Stooped shoulders which many people get from running in and out of shelters.

**Shelter Throat**—A form of sore throat caused by over-crowding in the shelters.

**Cat Eye**—One soon gets used to the darkness and most of us are now developing cat's eyes (and even cat's whiskers in case one cannot shave in the dark) and we are beginning to get around in the blackout without even the aid of a flashlight.—JOSEPH T. MANTSCH, "Business as Usual," *The Lamp*, magazine of the Standard Oil Company, of New Jersey, 4-'41.

## WOMEN—In Industry

Both Western Union and Postal Telegraph have hired a few girl messengers in Chicago recently, as they have in several other cities and were forced to do in World War days, to replace draftees or boys lured into defense industries by the prevailing high wage scale. Supplementing heaven's protection of the working girl, both companies use their gentle couriers principally within large office buildings where they have branch offices and for phone delivery of singing telegrams—forcing the irate boys out into the rain and traffic. Result: A group of Western Union messenger boys in Chicago went on strike.—*Newsweek*, 5-26-'41.

## Good Stories you can use . . .

### "I LAUGHED AT THIS ONE"

EARL CARROLL

Two beautiful chorus girls, who had recently joined the Earl Carroll show in Hollywood, came in to rehearsal early to become familiar with backstage of theater. While inspecting the dressing rooms, one said to the other, "Suppose there were a fire! We'd better find the fire escape."

So they investigated room after room, with no success. Finally they opened a door at the end of the hall, but discovered to their horror the male star taking a bath.

"Oh, I'm sorry," screamed one of the girls as they backed quickly from the room. "We're looking for the fire escape!"

Just as he was, with soap streaming from him, the young leading man scrambled from the tub, streaked out the door, down the hall and across the stage, shouting in panic, "Where's the fire?!"

A union official representing the I L G W U, and who is four feet 11 inches in height, waited in the City Hall for an appointment with Mayor La Guardia. In due time the Mayor arrived and began walking towards his office. . . . All the policemen and officials in the foyer stood at attention, while Fiorello strode by. The tiny union official also stood up. La Guardia walked hurriedly, then hesitated for a moment beside the under-five-foot labor representative. Fiorello took one step to his side, moved his hand from the top of his own head to the top of the other's, snapped: "I'm taller than you are"—and continued on his way.—LEONARD LYONS.

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If you think the national-defense effort isn't seriously affecting normal civilian activities, take the case of three footloose young ladies who were strolling through Central Park late the other afternoon when they were accosted by three men. After a brief, informative chat, the girls exchanged trenchant looks and went on by themselves. "See what I mean?" one of them was heard to say. "They're always either over or under draft age."—*The New Yorker*.

When defeat came to the German arms in World War I, and the humbled nation sent its envoys to the forest of Compiègne to ask for an armistice, the petitioners were received with cool but scrupulous politeness. They were served a luncheon apart, by themselves; and Marshall Foch took great pains to see that they were well served. He was particularly careful to see that their wine should be of a very rare vintage.

"Take care," he said to the waiter, "that they observe the label."

It bore the date 1870.—*Wall Street Journal*.

## Wisecracks of the Week

The term "modest rents" seems to have a tendency to mean that they have been well raised.—*Kingston (Canada) Whig-Standard*.

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We cannot simply toot our horns and get democracy by curb service.—PROF. LEE M. BROOKS, University of North Carolina, *Survey* Midmonthly.

" "

Confidence still exists in the world or they wouldn't serve hash.—*Greensboro (Georgia) Herald-Journal*.

" "

You never know what a small world this is until you see a woman trying to park in it.

" "

Honesty is the best policy. But in this day and age, not many people figure they can afford the best.—*The Prairie Farmer*.

" "

A church sign in London's damaged area reads:

"If your knees knock, kneel on them."—JOSEPH T. MANTSCH.

A small merchant opened a store in Southern Illinois. After struggling for several weeks to make a go of it, he finally closed his door.

The next morning the townspeople chuckled over a large sign he had painted on the window of the store, which read—"OPENED BY MISTAKE."—*Saint Louis Advertising Club Weekly*.



